

Delivered 21/11/92

19 November 1992

SPEECH IN HONOUR OF MR G GEORGIU DELIVERED AT A SPECIAL FUNCTION HELD IN HIS HONOUR AND GIVEN BY THE HELLENIC COMMUNITY OF ALBERTON.

Address.

Take:

I have not had the occasion to address my fellow Albertonians for at least three years.

This evening I have been called upon to say a few words on this occasion which is the honouring of our immediate past Chairman, of the Hellenic Community of Alberton, our friend George Georgiou.

Firstly, a few words to our new Chairman Mr Magdalinos and his committee.

Congratulations with your election as Chairman of this wonderful community. May I also take this opportunity to congratulate you, Mr Magdalinos, and to wish you well in your period of office. To you and your committee all the success. Remember we have a high and respected standard and there is absolutely no doubt in my mind that this standard will not only be retained but that it will be improved upon.

I wish to thank you and your committee for organising this wonderful event in honour of our friend, past honorary Secretary and Chairman of the Hellenic Community of Alberton. It is only by honouring and recognising people that you show your own qualities. I assure you that it is not only us here this evening, but society at large that accepts and respects what you are doing in providing this forum for us to honour George Georgiou.

There is a tinge of sadness in my heart and I am sure in yours, because George and his family have decided to leave us on a "permanent" basis. I say permanent, in inverted commas, because we all hope that not only he, but all those who for obvious reasons have taken this decision to leave South Africa will be back with us soon in a country, we hope, which will eventually be filled with peace and prosperity. The two most important ingredients required to develop contented citizens.

George is my nephew, but I promise you my feelings for him are not influenced because of our family relationship, but because of our friendship, understanding and manner of communication.

A successful lawyer, a man independent in his profession, a man who I am satisfied can make a go of all events and meet all challenges in his life. As a Chairman we saw in a very short period of time what he did for the community.

I, in my twenty five years as chairman of the community I had the privilege to be assisted by two honorary secretaries, the first one - George Dracatos and the second - George Georgiou, both lawyers, both people that gave status to our community.

Tell
New Hell
Come Org.
No Personal
Promotion
Help promote
Hellenes
from within
to outside
Not only
Intern.
Hellenes
our Right
We can't
teach them
to be like
Let them
have a follow
us
The Dark
of the
Pathways

We will submit you

I was very fortunate to have a man like George Georgiou as my secretary. I personally also faced very difficult moments in my personal life and yet I had this wonderful boy to support me and to lighten my burden. *I THANK you.*

George, actively served the community as honorary Secretary from 1982 and became Chairman in 1991.

✓ He set a wonderful example, something that is expected of all Chairmen and as far as I am concerned all Committee members.

In his period of office as Secretary, but more particular as Chairman, he moved out of the environment of every day community politics, he placed himself above all these matters and handled some very delicate situations without being influenced and without on many occasions having to be guided by his heart. It is something that only a very mature, trained person can achieve and practice. He is a true leader.

We all know how difficult sometime most matters become in local community politics. You have to have broad shoulders. Your decisions cannot please all. They have to be taken for the welfare of the community at large. You need foresight and vision.

In particular, I have to refer to the difficult socio-political and socio-economic conditions prevailing in South Africa and what has filtered through to us has effected Hellenism in a very severe manner. He and his committee have had to face a difficult environment and yet in a short time under George Georgiou's leadership, the community has held its own.

All these attributes George portrayed during his period of office.

He may not have noticed it but I really grew to admire two phrases that he was never been called upon to learn or to preach by others. He developed them and made them his way of life.

Greek These phrases cannot be put into practice unless you believe in them and unless you live the moment. He is always saying - "I am Greek" - "we Greeks can or must".

Greek What a wonderful virtue - Hellenism - and to be able to live it. Let it be part of your life. He would always refer to Hellenes who have made the grade in various walks of life. Even if they were complete strangers their success and association with Hellenism made George proud.

These virtues and his love for Hellenism made him a good leader and chairman of our community.

So important to all of us and Hellenism. If only more of our younger generation would follow in the footsteps of George.

George, to you and your wife, I must also refer to your Mom and Dad who are parents of this community, we thank you for the sacrifices you have made to serve our community. You mean so much to us, we will miss you. We pray that the good Lord endows you and your family with happiness, success and prosperity. Ingredients of life which you as a good Christian are entitled to and which you deserve.

Εὐχαριστῶ Αὐτὸν ὁποῦτος
Thank you and God bless.

Two

① ~~Μα~~ ^{Μα} ~~αλεξη~~ ^{αλεξη} ~~αγασταριος~~ ^{αγασταριος} ~~και~~ ^{και} ~~Αποστολος~~ ^{Αποστολος}

② ~~Το~~ ^{Το} ~~αμερικαν~~ ^{αμερικαν} ~~κατασκευασ~~ ^{κατασκευασ}

21/11/92

X 1) Tell of new Roll Organizations &

Communities have to play

2) No longer meant for personal promotion.

3) Help promote Hellenes among the outsiders

Communitarian structure - let outsiders understand
Hellenism. Megas Alexandros

4) Become like America, Australia Canada -
in the new World
let them want us

5) The World, Roll of our Greek Mythology.

c) To be Hellenic is not an obligation

ΔΕΥ είμαι Ελλας